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TITLE: Document processing device having format information storing function

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CLAIMS:

What is claimed is:
1. A document processing device, comprising:
input means for inputting data comprising at least characters and various
instructions as input data;
display means for displaying the input characters;
a text memory for storing the input data;
control means for controlling the input means, the text memory, the display means
and the print means;
fixed format mode setting means for setting a fixed format mode to print the input
data in a fixed format, wherein each fixed format defined elements of a label for
a specific use in which input data fills in the elements;
a non-volatile fixed format information memory in which fixed format information
for printing the input data in a prescribed preset fixed format is stored;
a format information memory provided in said text memory stores fixed format
information to print the input data when the fixed format mode is set;
format information transmission means for reading the fixed format information
defining the elements of the label from said fixed format information memory and
transmitting the fixed format information to said format information memory; and
format information altering control means for displaying on a display the fixed
format information which is transmitted by said format information transmission
means to said format information memory and allowing the fixed format information
of the elements to be altered through said input means.
2. The document processing device as claimed in claim 1, further comprising mode
releasing means for releasing the fixed format mode which is set by said fixed
format mode setting means and permitting the fixed format information to be
transmitted by said format information transmission means to said format
information memory.
3. The document processing device claimed in claim 1, further comprising print
means for printing the input data stored in said text memory.
4. The document processing device as claimed in claim 3, wherein said print means
comprises:
a print member having a plurality of print elements; and
a print cassette containing a tape for being printed upon.
5. The document processing device as claimed in claim 1, wherein each fixed format
constitutes a format previously stored in said non-volatile fixed format

information memory to predetermine acceptable input data for each element.

6. The document processing device as claimed in claim 1, wherein each <u>fixed</u> format defines a printed product having an elongated, rectangular shape.

7. A print processing device, comprising:
input means for inputting character data and instructions as input data;
a display having a cursor;
an input memory for storing the input data;
a non-volatile memory storing a plurality of <u>fixed</u> formats for <u>labels, each fixed</u> format having at least one defined element and said non-volatile memory additionally storing information requirements for the at least one defined element of each <u>fixed</u> format of the plurality of <u>fixed</u> formats;
a working memory;
a <u>fixed</u> format selecting means for selecting from the plurality of <u>fixed</u> formats;
altering means for altering the selected one of the plurality of <u>fixed</u> formats; and
a controller for controlling all elements of said print processing device.

8. The print processing device as claimed in claim 7, further comprising a print element, wherein the input data is printed by said print element in the selected <u>fixed</u> format or according to the instructions.

9. The print processing device as claimed in claim 8, wherein the format and the input data are combined in said work memory to create print data for printing by said print element.

10. The print processing device as claimed in claim 7, wherein each format of the plurality of <u>fixed</u> formats has a plurality of attributes, each attribute having a default value to define the <u>fixed</u> format.

11. The print processing device as claimed in claim 10, wherein at least one of the plurality of attributes for each <u>fixed</u> format has alternative settings that can be set by said altering means.

12. The print processing device as claimed in claim 7, wherein a format, as well as input data, can be input using said input means to create a user defined format.

13. The print processing device as claimed in claim 7, wherein said display has at least two sections, a first section for displaying information requirements and print processing device generated messages and a second section for displaying input data.

14. The print processing device as claimed in claim 7, wherein the print processing device is a tape printer for printing information on a tape.

15. The print processing device as claimed in claim 14, wherein the tape has one of a plurality of widths and further comprising a sensor for detecting a width of the tape.

16. The print processing device as claimed in claim 14, wherein each <u>fixed</u> format of the plurality of <u>fixed</u> formats defines a <u>label</u> for a specific use.